

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing replaces all prior listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) Handsfree system for use in a vehicle comprising a microphone array with at

least two microphones and a signal processing means characterized in that

the signal processing means comprises a superdirective beamformer with fixed superdirective filters.

2. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to claim 1 wherein the beamformer is a regularized superdirective beamformer using a finite regularization parameter p , in particular, a finite regularization parameter p depending on the frequency.

3. (new) Handsfree system according to claim 2 where the finite regularization parameter p comprises a finite regularization parameter p depending on the frequency.

43. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to claim 1 or 2 wherein each superdirective filter results from an iterative design based on a predetermined maximum susceptibility.

54. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to one of the preceding claims 1 wherein each superdirective filter is comprises a filter in the time domain.

65. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to one of the preceding claims 1 wherein the signal processing means further comprises at least one inverse filter; in particular, a warped inverse filter, for adjusting a microphone transfer function.

7. (new) Handsfree system according to claim 6 where the at least one inverse filter comprises a warped inverse filter.

86. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to claim 56 wherein each inverse filter ~~is~~ comprises an approximate inverse of a non-minimum phase filter.

97. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to claim ~~5~~ or 6 wherein each inverse filter is combined with a superdirective filter of the beamformer.

108. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to ~~one of the preceding claims 1~~ wherein the beamformer ~~has~~ comprises the structure of a generalized sidelobe canceller (GSC).

119. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to ~~one of the preceding claims 1~~ wherein the beamformer ~~is~~ comprises a minimum variance distortionless response (MVDR) beamformer.

1240. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to ~~one of the preceding claims 1~~ wherein the microphone array comprises at least two microphones ~~being~~ arranged in an endfire orientation with respect to a first position.

1344. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to claim 12 wherein the microphone array comprises at least two microphones ~~being~~ arranged in endfire orientation with respect to a second position.

1542. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to claim 13 wherein the at least two microphones in the first endfire orientation and the at least two microphones in the second endfire orientation ~~have~~ comprise a microphone in common.

1643. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to ~~one of the preceding claims 1~~ wherein the microphone array comprises at least two subarrays.

1714. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to claim 156 wherein at least two subarrays ~~have~~comprise at least one microphone in common.

1815. (currently amended) Handsfree system according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~¹ further comprising a frame wherein each microphone of the microphone array is arranged in a predetermined, ~~in particular fixed,~~ position in or on the frame.

19. (new) Handsfree system according to claim 18 where the predetermined position comprises a fixed position in or on the frame.

2016. Handsfree system according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~¹ wherein at least one microphone is~~comprises~~ a directional microphone, ~~in particular, having a cardioid characteristic and/or being a differential microphone.~~

21. (new) Handsfree system according to claim 20 where the directional microphone comprises a directional microphone with a cardioid characteristic.

22. (new) Handsfree system according to claim 20 where the directional microphone comprises a differential microphone.

2317. Handsfree system according to claim 1 comprising a vehicle coupled to the microphone and the beamformer. ~~comprising a handsfree system according to one of the preceding claims¹.~~